

October 24, 2011

ARAMARK Education Partners Honored at the White House



Four ARAMARK Education partner school districts -- Carpentersville (IL), Lewisville ISD (TX), McKinney ISD (TX) and North Pocono (PA) – were among the 1,273 schools honored October 17 at the White House by First Lady Michelle Obama for their participation in the United States Department of Agriculture's HealthierUS School Challenge.

"We are so pleased that several of our partner school districts were recognized by the First Lady for their achievements with the HealthierUS School Challenge," said Dennis Maple, President, ARAMARK Education. "We are extremely proud of them and all of our ARAMARK team members who are working to create healthier school environments through the promotion of good nutrition and physical activity."

Schools participating in the Challenge must meet key requirements, such as providing healthy meals based on the [Dietary Guidelines for Americans](#), including a variety of fresh fruits and vegetables, whole-grain foods, and fat-free or low fat milk, as well as offering students physical education and opportunities to participate in physical activities.

"Challenge schools also have to do what schools do best: They have to *teach* their students what it means to eat smart," the First Lady said. "They have to ensure that kids take part in regular physical activity. To achieve that goal some schools offer creative options, such as supporting walking clubs and community-sponsored sports tournaments, or by just keeping a basket of simple items available for students to use during recess, such as jump ropes or hula hoops."

Several ARAMARK team members joined their clients at the White House event.



(L. to R.) Scott Rodgers, Mary Jo McLoughlin and Sarah Cossidente from Carpentersville.



Sonya Williams from McKinney.

The USDA HealthierUS School Challenge is part of the First Lady's Let's Move campaign aimed at ending childhood obesity within a generation. For more information about the Challenge, visit: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/healthierus/index.html>.